






# Your Tax Dollars At Work:


## Following the Federal Fish Bureaucracy

### January/ February, 2000


   32 Public Hearings are held by 9 federal agencies in 8 weeks (4-D, All-H, Corps Feasibility). 7 out of 17 4-D hearings and 3 out of 15 All-H hearings are held in Washington State.


 NPPC calls for ways to improve the region's fish & wildlife program. Framework Analysis reviewed by experts.


 A supplemental EIS will be issued. Proposal will include "aquatic strategy" to replace the PACFISH and INFISH rules for aquatic and riparian management on federal lands. A 90-day public comment period follows. Delayed until Spring


 On February 22, Public Hearing process concluded in Washington state.


### March, 2000


 Final Multi-Species Framework Analysis is projected to be released.


 Lower Snake River Juvenile Salmon Migration Feasibility Study/EIS as well as John Day Drawdown Study.

 On March 6, Public comment period closes.


 On March 8, final public hearing on "Conservation of Columbia Basin Fish" draft report, also known as the All-H Paper.


 Final public hearing on All-H Paper, Draft Feasibility study in Juneau, Alaska


 March 22—NMFS date to have draft "biological opinion" for salmon and steelhead to the "action agencies."


 On March 31, Public comment period for All-H Paper closes. Date for NMFS to have draft biological opinion to action agencies, states, and tribes. Close of public comment period for Draft


### April, 2000

 NMFS has indicated further biological analysis on salmon and steelhead from the Cumulative Risk Initiative (CRI) from its Northwest Fisheries Science Center will be completed.


 NPPC technical discussions with the region's fish & wildlife managers and stakeholders on various fish and wildlife issues.


 Time-frame cited in the rule when the Puget Sound Tri-Counties will submit a plan to NMFS for exemptions to the 4-D Rule


 April 14—USFWS target date for draft biological opinion for bull trout, and 5 species of Snake River snails.

 On April 30, comments for USFWS draft biological opinion for bull trout, and 5 species of Snake River snails closes.


### May, 2000


 NPPC to submit recommendations for a new fish & wildlife plan. The Council will hold discussions with tribal government groups.


 Public comment period on supplemental draft closes. Final EIS to follow.


 On May 1, NMFS closing of comment period on draft Biological opinion for salmon and steelhead.


### June, 2000

 The NPPC will issue a draft of updated and improved fish & wildlife plan.


 Council will hold additional discussions with tribes and stakeholders and host public hearings on the draft plan.


 June 2—USFWS date for finalizing a "Biological Opinion" including a "preferred alternative" for bull trout, and 5 species of Snake River snails.


 June 16—NMFS date for finalizing its "Biological Opinion" including a "preferred alternative" for salmon and steelhead. The opinion will be focused on harvest and hydro. NMFS does not have any stated time-frame for issuing a biological opinion for hatcheries for all 12 ESU's.

 June 19—Date cited by NMFS as the deadline it must finalize the 4(d) Rule for steelhead under a "court-ordered settlement."


### July, 2000

 Corps' anticipated Second Draft EIS on Lower Snake River Feasibility Study with preferred alternative


 Council deliberates on public comments.


 July 1—Date that Congress requested NMFS to provide numerical goals for Puget Sound ESU's for salmon and steelhead, and to provide a schedule for numerical goals and objectives to be provided for the rest of Washington.


### August, 2000


 August 1-15, 2000, Date cited by Will Stelle as when the numerical goals will actually be provided to Congress as requested, and anticipated time-frame of actual implementation of the 4-D Salmon rule.


### September, 2000


 NPPC approves a new fish and wildlife plan.


 September 9, 2000—Corps anticipated date to forward final John Day Drawdown Phase I study to Congress (this is 2 months later than stated last year)

 **Federal Caucus\***

 **U.S. Army Corp of Engineers**

 **Multi-Species Framework- Northwest Power Planning Council**

 **National Marine Fisheries Service**

 **Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project-U.S.F.S and B.L.M.**

\*9 Fed. Agencies: NMFS is the lead agency, also includes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, BOR, BPA, EPA, USFWS, BIA, USFS, BLM